

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers

Vol. 58 No. 4

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Whole No. 598

## THE DIME NOVEL AND ITS SUCCESSORS

By Edward T. LeBlanc

THE ALDINE "BOYS' FIRST-RATE POCKET LIBRARY."



No. 160

A scene around a cave in Dick the rescue Doctor standing only

[1d]

Aldine Publishing Co., 9, Red Lion Court, London.

Dime Novel Sketches #237

### ALDINE BOYS' FIRST RATE POCKET LIBRARY

Publisher: Aldine Publishing Co., 9 Red Lion Court, London, England.  
 Issues: 472. Dates: 1890 to October 21, 1905. Schedule: twice a month.  
 Size: 8½ x 5½". Pages: 32. Price: 1d. Illustrations: Colored pictorial cover.  
 Contents: Mostly reprints of Beadles Half Dime Library including the Deadwood Dick stories.

## THE DIME NOVEL AND ITS SUCCESSORS\*

By Edward T. LeBlanc

Dime novels reached their peak in the late 1890s. They had been an immediate success when started in 1860. For the next 17 years Beadle and his rivals, George Munro, Norman Munro, Robert DeWitt and a few others issued their little booklets aimed at an adult audience. In 1877 Beadle began a series, Beadles Half Dime Library, which reached for a younger audience. There had been some serial story papers which appealed to teen-agers, more totably, Frank Leslie's Boys and Girls Weekly, Young American and Norman Munro's Our Boys and Boys of New York. Soon most dime novel publishers were issuing series devoted to the younger audience, though most also featured adult type series as well. The difference in price seems to be the determining factor in identifying the audience. Ten cents for the adults, 5 cents for the teen-agers. In the late 1890s Beadle went bankrupt though his stories continued as reprints by his successors, M. J. Ivers and the Arthur Westbrook Co. The other major dime novel publishers suspended their adult oriented series. From then on the dime novel was mainly directed at the younger audience. And in another fifteen years, the dime novel was on the wane with only reprints continuing.

What was the cause of this loss in sales? The population by this time was more literate. There were more readers to read the dime novel but that was not to be. What took their place? This paper is meant to discover the cause.

The first culprit was the pulp magazine. In 1899 Munsey changed his Argosy from a juvenile and boys paper into a magazine aimed at adults. Street & Smith followed suit with their Popular Magazine and Smiths Magazine and soon there were countless pulps on the market siphoning off the readers of dime novels. Many of the pulps were direct descendants of the dime novel. Tip Top Semi-Monthly Magazine began the week after New Tip Top Weekly ended. Detective Story Magazine succeeded Nick Carter Stories and Western Story Magazine continued the New Buffalo Bill Weekly. Street & Smith managed to succeed by adapting to the changing times. They issued their dime novels in pocket book format and were able to continue successfully for another twenty years. Frank Tousey or rather his successors never did change and eventually were taken over by Street & Smith in the 1920s. Street & Smith soon discontinued their series or changed them to pulp magazines. Wild West Weekly and Fame and Fortune became pulps. Later Fortune borrowed part of the Fame and Fortune title and became Fortune Magazine which is still extant a far cry from its dime novel antecedent.

The pulps were not the only ones to seal the death of dime novels. The boys and girls series books were another. The pulps took most of the adult readers, the series books, the younger readers. The first of these

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series books was the Rover Boys started in 1899. Soon there were hundreds of them on the market. They sold for fifty cents and usually only one or two were issued annually. They were to continue unabated until World War II. A few new series were published during the fifties and sixties and a few like Nancy Drew, The Hardy Boys, The Bobbsey Twins and a few others are still being distributed, but at a much higher price.

But in my opinion the thing that put the nail in the coffin of dime novels was the movies. When a boy or a girl had 5 cents to spend in the 1890s there was no question as to where it went. Dime novels provided an escape from the humdrum of every day life. High adventure and day dreams could be fulfilled by reading dime novels. But when the decision had to be made between spending a nickel for a dime novel or to attend a movie house for the same price, the movies won out. Nickelodeons sprang up in store fronts all over the country. These one and two reelers opened a visual adventure to youngsters and oldsters alike. Some dime novel heroes made their way to the silver screen. Some 20 of the Young Wild West stories were filmed by the Nestor Film Co. Frank Merriwell also hit the screen in the 1916-17 era. We now know this only from letters to the editors published in New Tip Top Weekly. Apparently only two Frank Merriwell stories were filmed. The S&S editor in reply to a letter asking when more would appear was told that the cost for the ones made were too high for the film makers to continue. Later in the 1930s a Frank Merriwell serial was filmed. Copies of the serial are available in some movie archives. One collector has managed to collect copies of most of the chapters. The others I'm afraid are lost except for the references to them. The Young Wild West ones were noted on the dime novels themselves. Maybe some movie buff will delve into this some day.

With the demise of the dime novels, what happened to the writers? Many had made a good living writing weekly adventures of series characters. What did they turn to to earn a living? They followed the readership to the pulps, series books and the movies. Edward Stratemeyer wrote a number of series books, notably The Rover Boys and Bobbsey Twins. He started a syndicate to write or rather flesh out his ideas for series and individual volumes and continued until his death. The syndicate continued until the death of his daughter in the late 1970s. His story has been related by Jack Dizer and need not be gone into in detail here. St. George Rathborn also wrote series books and may have for a time contributed to the Stratemeyer syndicate. Harrie Irving Hancock made the same change from writing adventure stories for Norman Munro, sport stories for Frank Tousey in that publishers' Frank Manley and Young Athlete Weeklies and other dime novels. He wrote series books for the Altemus Co.

William Wallace Cook went to writing for the pulps as did Cornelius Shea. Gilbert Patten, writer of most of the Merriwells contributed to both the pulps and to series books. He wrote a number of series under his own name and pseudonyms including the Lefty Locke Series, Clif Stirling Series and others.

Francis Worcester Doughty wrote scenarios for the movies. Even Edward S. Ellis was discussing writing scripts for educational films, mostly historical in nature when he died.

The dime novel legacy still survives though not always recognizable. Youngsters of the 40s and 50s bought comic books as avidly as prior generations bought dime novels. Radio and TV programs, especially the westerns and detectives follow in the tradition of popular culture.

## HARRIET ADAMS: THE SECRET OF THE OLD CLOCK

By John M. Enright

In the 1978 book *THE GREAT DETECTIVES* (Boston, Toronto: Little, Brown), Editor Otto Penzler managed to secure the services of Carolyn Keene for an essay on veteran teenage Sleuth Nancy Drew. This was quite a trick, when one considers that there is no such person as "Carolyn Keene." It is a house name for the Stratemeyer Syndicate; and on this occasion, after the fashion of a schoolgirl reciting a familiar lesson, aging SS Boss Harriet Adams assumed the role of Keene to insist yet again that she and her father Edward Stratemeyer drew Nancy from their own experiences and were solely responsible for the books. Adams even signs the article with the Keene name.

Then she proceeds to rehash a lot of her *TV Guide* account of the year before, insisting that she had gotten a scene for *THE SPIDER SAPPHIRE MYSTERY* from a baboon. One suspects that for a score of years or longer that baboon had actually been Harriet's chief ghostwriter.

True to form if not to history, old Miz Adams then trots out her college motto, to the effect that nobody ever did anything for Harriet and that Harriet spent most of her born days "ministering" unto others. Comments Adams: "Probably the most challenging puzzles . . . to Nancy are . . . code messages . . . . For instance, what should she do with 'Blue bells will be singing horses?'" What Nancy should do is go consult Walter Karig, the author who ghostwrote the mystery (*THE PASSWORD TO LARKSPUR LANE*) in which that incident appears. However, Adams hogged the limelight and pretended that Mr. Karig never existed, and newspapers and magazines have generally gone along with her deceptions. Harriet Adams paid her ghostwriters a little cash, but she never gave them any credit.

One oddity of recent decades was Nancy Drew hitting the bottle, going from a blond to a redhead. (The usual adjective: "Titian.") Claims Adams: "Nancy was always described as a blond. To my consternation an artist had given her bright red hair! When I asked why, he told me . . . he felt that a contrast would help the picture" on the front cover. Of course, a real author would not ask the artist; she would have told him. In England in 1978, an Armada paperback of *THE HAUNTED SHOWBOAT* takes the same tack, the back cover displaying half a dozen Drew covers with a Nancy who has red-orange hair. Despite her repeated failures to show up at my apartment, I still like Actress Pamela Sue Martin; and her other admirers will be glad to know that she is on the front cover, with an expression on her face which suggests that she is saying: "Oh, Harriet! Are you still handing out that jive?"

Although a couple of the better ghostwriters and some of the artists may have gone their own way, newspaper and magazine writers have largely xeroxed Harriet's handouts. These "investigative reporters" never questioned the fantasy that she and her father had knocked out a thousand books during halftime. Although the author may have had the imperious Henry Luce and his *Time* empire in mind when he wrote it, the best concept of Harriet Adams comes from Novelist Kenneth Flexner Fearing in *THE BIG CLOCK*:

"The big clock was running as usual. . . . Sometimes the hands of the clock actually raced, and at other times they hardly moved at all. But that made no difference to the big clock. The hands could move backward, and the time it told would be right all the same . . . because all other watches have to be set by the big one, which is even more powerful than the calendar."

THE END



## A CORRECTION TO JOHANNSEN'S HOUSE OF BEADLE AND ADAMS

By Victor A. Berch

In Volume II, page 16, under the heading of George L. Aiken, Johannsen writes the following:

Besides his novels for Beadle, Aiken also wrote, among many other stories: 'The Household Skeleton,' 1865; 'Cynthia, the Pearl of the Points,' 1867; 'The Doom of Deville; or, The Maiden's Vow,' . . ."

This last mentioned story was *not* written by Aiken, but was written by Mrs. E.D.E.N. Southworth and it first appeared in the *New York Ledger*, volume 15, numbers 23-38 (August 13, 1859—November 26, 1859).

George L. Aiken was, however, an author of one of the dramatizations of Mrs. Southworth's story. The first was written by John F. Poole and produced on November 9, 1859, at the Bowery Theatre, New York City. Aiken's dramatization was produced shortly thereafter at Barnum's American Museum on November 28, 1859.

\* \* \* \* \*

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLES—DIME NOVELS, BOYS BOOKS

Horatio Alger: lover of boys. A two-column entry in the Encyclopedia of AMERICAN SCANDAL, by George C. Kohn, Facts on File, Pub. New York Oxford. A recounting of the Brewster affair. Too bad this episode cannot be laid to rest.

A DIME NOVEL COLLECTOR'S BOOK SHELF Children, Culture, & Controversy, by Mark I. West, Shoe String Press, 928 Sherman Ave., Hamden, CT 06514, \$23.50, 130 pages, indexed. Reviews the blaming of various publication forms for harming children beginning with dime novels, through series books, radio shows, comic books to modern TV programs and rock lyrics. Sent in by Jim Deutsch.

\* \* \* \* \*

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FURTHER ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO HORATIO ALGER'S  
SHORT STORIES AND POETRY

By Victor A. Berch

## PREFACE

When I first submitted the short list of additional citations to the Alger short story bibliography (See DNR Vol. 57 No. 2, April 1988, Page 29), I had little conception of the great amount of material that had been overlooked. Like many others, I was under the impression that all that had to do with Horatio Alger, Jr., had been thoroughly explored. But with the revelations of some new pseudonyms, such as Carl Cantab and Caroline F. Preston, a re-examination of the literature proved necessary. I do have some reservations about the Caroline F. Preston pseudonym, since it has been stated that it was also a pseudonym used by Alger's sister, O. Augusta Cheney, and at times used by both in collaboration. However, I have deemed it wise to include all the citations I could locate that bore the Caroline F. Preston by-line in an attempt at comprehensiveness. It should be stated that we may never know all the short stories and poetry produced by Alger due to the fact that there are lacunae in holdings of some of the periodicals and story papers to which Alger contributed. It is hoped that this article will spur on others to re-examine the holdings of other libraries outside the Boston area to better refine the Alger bibliography.

I would like to thank the able staff of the American Antiquarian Worcester, Massachusetts, for its excellent service. I would also like to thank the editor of the Dime Novel Roundup, Eddie LeBlanc, for his encouragement in this pursuit. The following bibliographic sources have been cited in this compilation:

- BENNETT BENNETT, BOB - Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Comprehensive Bibliography, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, Flying Eagle Publishing Co., 1980
- BERCH BERCH, VICTOR - "Additions to Stanley A. Pachon's List of Alger Short Stories." Dime Novel Roundup, Vol. 57, No. 2 (April 1988), page 29
- OLSEN OLSEN, MORRIS - "New Source of Alger Shorts" Newsboy, Vol. XX Nos. 3 and 4 (October/November 1981), page 9
- PACHON PACHON, STANLEY A. - "Some Addenda and Corrigenda to Bob Bennett's Horatio Alger, Jr. Bibliography" Dime Novel Roundup, Vol. 56 No. 5 (October 1987), pages 82-86; Vol. 56 No. 6 (December 1987), pages 100-101; Vol. 57 No. 1 (February 1988), pages 11-15
- SCHARNHORST SCHARNHORST, GARY - "Alger Contributions to True Flag" Newsboy, Vol. XXI Nos. 8 and 9 (March/April 1983), pages 23-24
- WALTHER WALTHER, PETER C. - (Letter listing 7 Alger items in Gleason's Monthly Companion, Vol. 5 Nos. 1-12 January-December 1876) Newsboy Vol. XXI Nos. 8 and 9 (March/April 1983), pages 23-24

Neither Olsen nor Walther have numbered their entries, but I have taken the liberty of assigning numbers in the order of each title's appearance on its respective list for reference purposes.



1. Albert Grafton's Speculation, by Rev. Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 7, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 36)  
(Bennett 4, date correction)
2. Alice's Gift. A New Year's Story, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Jan. 2, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 1)
3. Annie Graham; or, The Young Lawyer's Fee, by Charles F. Preston  
True Flag, Nov. 8, 1856 (Vol. 6 No. 3)  
(Scharnhorst 54 and Bennett 6 omit subtitle)
4. Artist's Triumph, The. A Tale of London, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
The Olive Branch, Dec. 17, 1853 (Vol. 18 No. 50)
5. Augustus Rivers; or, The Fortune Hunter, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Feb. 4, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 5)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Apr. 22, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 16)
6. Aunt Betsey's Day in Boston, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 12, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 2)
7. Aunt Betsy's Horse, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 20, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 42)
8. Aunt Deborah's Gift, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 26, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 43)
9. Aunt Mchitable's First Offer, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 7, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 14)
10. Aunt Mchitable's Visit, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Feb. 1, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 5)
11. Aunt Polly's Elopement, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 15, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 3)
12. Awkward Jeremiah, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Feb. 4, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 5)  
Home Circle, Dec. 10, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 50)
13. "Beating Down", by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Weekly Line of Battleship, Oct. 8, 1859 (Vol. 1 No. 41)
14. Beauchamp Estate, The; or, A Lawyer's Stratagem, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, July 10, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 28)
15. Behind the Panel; or, The Nightly Visit, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Apr. 24, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 17)  
(Add to Pachon 17)
16. Blanche Trevor's Love, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, July 8, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 27)  
(Bennett 16 omits exact date)
17. Blue Chest, The, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Apr. 23, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 17)  
(Bennett 18 omits exact date)
18. Blue Velvet Bonnet, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 11, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 50)  
(Add to Pachon 20)
19. Boarding House Flirtation, A. by Carl Cantab  
American Union, Oct. 1, 1853 (Vol. 10 No. 23)  
Advertised in Vol. 10 No. 22 to be in next number
20. Boarding-School Drudge, The, by Rev. Horatio Alger  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Aug. 26, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 34)  
(Incorrectly cited by Olsen, add to Bennett 19)
21. Captain Hannah; or, The Tyrant of the School-Room, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 12, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 19)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Aug. 12, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 32)
22. Carl Hausen's Luck, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Oct. 21, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 42)  
(Add to Bennett 31)

23. Charity Newcomb's Wig, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, Oct. 26, 1855 (Vol. 4 No. 52)  
(Scharnhorst 51 has incorrect title)
24. Claudine Challet; or, The Young Officer's Adventure, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, July 24, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 30)  
(Add to Pachon 35)
25. Colonel's Welcome, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, June 20, 1856 (Vol. 9 No. 25)  
(Add to Pachon 36)
26. Colonel's Wig, The; or, A Young Lady's Wager, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Jan. 9, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 2)
27. Cornelian Cross, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, July 5, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 28)  
(Add to Pachon 38)
28. Count de Rochambeau; or, French without a Master, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, July 30, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 31)  
(Add to Pachon 39)
29. Divining Rod, The, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Mar. 11, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 10)  
(Bennett 50 incorrect and incomplete date)
30. Double Marriage, The; or, Charles Grove's Mistake, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, July 1, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 26)  
(Add to Pachon 53)
31. Dressing for a Party, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, June 17, 1854 (Vol. 3 No. 34)  
(Scharnhorst 36 incorrect date)
32. Earl Spencer's Bride; or, The Managing Mother, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 22, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 51)  
Home Circle, Sept. 9, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 36)
33. Edgar Ashcroft's Bad Luck, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Mar. 6, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 10)
34. Elite of Elltown, The; or, Fashionables Vs. Factory Girls, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, July 24, 1854 (Vol. 3 No. 40)  
(Scharnhorst 37 incorrect date)
35. Fair Servitor, The. A Chronicle of the Middle Ages, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Feb. 4, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 5)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Feb. 11, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 6)  
(Bennett 61 and Olsen 1 do not have full title)
36. Frederick Manheim's Suit. A German Story, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Nov. 6, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 45)  
(Add to Bennett 69)
37. Frightening a Lover; or, The Strong Minded Woman, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, June 17, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 24)  
(Add to Pachon 58)
38. Genteel Boarding-House, A, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Feb. 10, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 6)  
Home Circle, July 29, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 30)  
(Add to Pachon 61)
39. Gentlemanly Young Man, The; or, Aunt Betsy's Railway Acquaintance, by  
Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 1, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 35)
40. George Beaumont's Bashfulness, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, July 18, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 29)  
(Add to Pachon 61)
41. "Going to Independence"; or, Jeremiah Skimpole's Experience, by Caro-  
line F. Preston



- Gleason's Literary Companion, July 21, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 29)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Oct. 14, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 4)
42. Gold Piece, The; or, The Newsboy's Temptation, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Mar. 26, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 13)  
(Bennett 74 omits exact date)
43. Gustavus A. Higgins, the Ill-Starred Genius, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 10, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 42)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Dec. 2, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 48)  
(Add to Pachon 68)
44. Gustavus Adolphus Higgins; or, The Hard Alternative, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 26, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 22)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Aug. 26, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 34)  
(Add to Pachon 69)
45. Hanging May-Basket; or, Fortune Perkins' Experience, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 8, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 19)
46. Henry Field's Legacy, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Mar. 17, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 11)  
(Add to Pachon 72)
47. Herbert's Dream. A New Year's Story, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Pictorial Home Visitor, Jan. 18, 1868 (Vol. 1 No. 3)  
(Add to Bennett 85; Pachon 74)
48. I Think of Thee. Imitated from the German of Mathison, by Carl Cantab  
(Verse)  
True Flag, Sept. 10, 1853 (Vol. 2 No. 46)  
(Scharnhorst 12, incomplete title)
49. Ichabod Bibb's Mistake; or, An Artist in Luck, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, June 23, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 25)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Sept. 23, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 38)
50. In Bed with a Ghost; or, One Night in a Haunted House, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 23, 1870 (Vol. 11 No. 17)
51. Informal Introduction, An; or, Edith Sinclair's Mistake, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Sept. 16, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 37)
52. Jane and Jane Elizabeth, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 19, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 20)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Aug. 19, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 33)  
(Add to Pachon 80)
53. Jealousy vs. Ice Cream, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Mar. 5, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 10)  
(Add to Pachon 81)
54. Jennie's Gift, by Horatio Alger, Jr. (Verse)  
Home Circle, Jan. 23, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 4)
55. Job Northrop's Adventure; or, The Perils of Traveling, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Mar. 3, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 9)
56. John Armstrong's Sin, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Mar. 27, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 13)  
(Add to Pachon 85)
57. John Smith's Tribulations, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 24, 1870 (Vol. 11 No. 39)  
(Add to Pachon 88)
58. John Stevenson's Good Fortune. A New Year's Story, by Rev. Horatio Alger, Jr.

- Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 5, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 1)  
(Subtitle added to Bennett 105; Correction to Pachon 89)
59. Jonesville Bank Robbery, The; or, The Unexpected Witness, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, Oct. 8, 1859 (Vol. 8 No. 51)
60. Joshua Simpkin's Defeat; or, The Timely Arrival, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, July 3, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 27)  
(Add to Pachon 93)
61. Kate Holbrook's Lovers; or, How One Offer Occasioned Another, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 18, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 51)
62. Keeping School at Beachborough, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 28, 1861 (Vol. 2 No. 39)  
Home Circle, Oct. 8, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 41)
63. Kitty Clifton's Ruse, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 4, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 14)
64. Kitty Cutting's New Collar, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 7, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 1)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Mar. 25, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 12)
65. Kitty Ray's Perplexity, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, July 9, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 28)  
(Bennett 114 omits exact date)
66. Laura's Wooing. A Tale of Saratoga, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 19, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 38)  
(Add to Pachon 96)
67. Leap Year Proposals, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 14, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 2)
68. Learning to Be an Editor, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, Mar. 11, 1854 (Vol. 3 No. 20)
69. Lieutenant's Bravery, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 28, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 4)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Feb. 11, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 6)  
(Add to Pachon 97)
70. Little Charlie, by Horatio Alger, Jr. (Verse)  
True Flag, July 16, 1853 (Vol. 2 No. 38)  
(Add to Bennet Poetry 38; Pachon Poetry 2)  
Dedicated to "Little Charlie Fenno, a cousin to the writer,  
and a promising boy of eight, was drowned, Saturday, June 11,  
by falling from the Chelsea Bridge..."
71. Little Image Merchant, The, by Rev. Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Nov. 4, 1866 (Vol. 1 No. 44)  
Home Circle, May 30, 1885 (Vol. 18 No. 22)  
(Incorrect citation by Olsen 19 as to issue number; Add to  
Bennett 118; Pachon 98)
72. Lucky Prediction, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 21, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 3)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, May 20, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 20)  
(Add to Pachon 103)
73. Maria Lindsay's Spiritual Advisor; or, What Came of Seeing a Ghost,  
by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, May 15, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 20)  
(Correction and addition to Pachon 107)
74. Marrying at Cross Purposes; or, What Might Happen, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, Sept. 26, 1853 (Vol. 6 No. 49)  
(Add to Pachon 109)
75. Mary's Escape. A Story of Ireland, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, May 1, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 18)



(Add to Pachon 110)

76. Matthew Pendleton's Wager, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Feb. 5, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 6)  
(Add to Bennett 135 and Pachon 111)
77. Miss Abigail's Ruse; or, How to Verify a Prediction, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Feb. 6, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 6)  
(Add to Pachon 118)
78. Miss Celestina's Two Offers, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Nov. 16, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 46)
79. Miss Euphemia's Stratagem, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 6, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 14)  
(Add to Pachon 120)
80. Miss Gregory's Mistake, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 26, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 4)
81. Miss Peabody's Disappointment, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 14, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 37)  
(Add to Pachon 126)
82. Miss Petronella Wiggin's Discovery, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 6, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 40)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Nov. 4, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 44)
83. Miss Plympton's Thanksgiving, by Rev. Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Dec. 2, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 48)  
(Olsen 22 has incorrect date; Add to Bennett 146)
84. Miss Shurtleff's Lodger, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Jan. 14, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 2)  
(Add to Pachon 128)
85. Miss Susan's Mistake, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Mar. 7, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 10)  
(Add to Pachon 124)
86. Mr. Appleton's Boarder, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Jan. 7, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 1)  
(Add to Pachon 133)
87. Mr. Budlong's Courtship, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Nov. 10, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 45)
88. Mr. De Courcy's Ride, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, July 28, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 30)
89. Mr. Tipton's Fate, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Apr. 17, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 16)  
(Add to Bennett 152)
90. Mrs. Bentley's Visitors, and How She Got Rid of Them, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 28, 1866 (Vol. 7 No. 17)  
(Add to Berch 3)
91. Mrs. Brewer's Boarders, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 11, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 2)  
(Add to Pachon 139)
92. Mrs. Gordon's Lot, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Dec. 9, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 49)  
(Add to Bennett 159; Pachon 143)
93. Mrs. Greenleaf's Plot; or, Locks and Bonds, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Aug. 7, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 32)  
(Correction to Pachon 144)
94. Mrs. Houghton's Cat; or, Who Was the Burglar, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Mar. 2, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 9)
95. Mrs. Periwinkle's Party, by Caroline F. Preston

- Gleason's Pictorial, Mar. 31, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 13)
96. Mrs. Porter's Practical Joke, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 8, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 36)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Nov. 18, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 46)
97. Mock Marriage, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Sept. 22, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 38)  
(Add to Pachon 131)
98. My Country Beau, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 9, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 19)
99. My Editorial Experience. A Brief Episode, by Carl Cantab  
True Flag, Aug. 15, 1857 (Vol. 6 No. 43)  
(Scharnhorst 62 title correction)
100. My First School; or, Teaching Young Ideas in Pumpkin Hollow, by  
Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 29, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 22)  
(Add to Pachon 158)
101. Mysterious Letter, The, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Feb. 6, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 6)  
(Add to Pachon 154)
102. Mysterious Lodger, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial, Mar. 24, 1860 (Vol. 2 No. 12)  
Home Circle, Jan. 28, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 4)  
(Pachon 155 date incorrect)
103. Mysterious Robbers, The, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Apr. 3, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 14)
104. Nancy Stratton's Valentine, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, May 27, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 21)
105. Newsboy, The. A Sketch of Boston, by A New Contributor (Alger???)  
True Flag, May 21, 1853 (Vol. 2 No. 30)  
Just about the time that Alger began to contribute to True  
Flag. This would be the first sketch to be contributed in  
that paper.
106. Nicholas Elwin's Tragedy, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Apr. 15, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 15)  
(Olsen 2 incorrect reference to Bennett)
107. Nicodemus' Discomfiture; or, The Sleeping Sentinel, by Caroline F.  
Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 17, 1869 (Vol. 10 No. 16)
108. Norah Burke's Trials, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Dec. 30, 1871 (Vol. 3 no. 52)  
(Bennett 169 omits exact date)
109. Obadiah Peabody's Wooing, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, May 18, 1861 (Vol. 2 No. 20)  
Gleason's Pictorial Home Visitor, Feb. 15, 1868 (Vol. 1 No. 7)  
(Add to Pachon 160)
110. Old Fashioned Sofa, The, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 22, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 43)  
(Add to Pachon 162)
111. Old Simon, The Miser. A Story of the New Year, by Carl Cantab  
American Union, Dec. 3, 1853 (Vol. 11 No. 10)  
Advertised in Vol. 11 No. 9 to appear in next number.
112. Paul Jenkins. A Tale of Love and Hair Dye, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, June 2, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 22)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Sept. 2, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 35)  
(Add to Pachon 167)
113. "Penny for Your Thoughts, A"; or, Harry Hampton's Summer in the Country,



- by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Mar. 19, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 12)  
(Add to Pachon 169)
114. Private Rehearsals; or, Mrs. Leroy's Flight, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, May 22, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 21)
115. Quite a Mistake; or, The Spinster's Blunder, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 28, 1861 (Vol. 2 No. 52)
116. Redeemed; or, A Friend in Need, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, May 22, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 21)
117. Robert Lawson; or, A Minister's Fortunes. A Story of New England,  
by Charles F. Preston  
True Flag, Mar. 25, 1854 (Vol. 3 No. 22)  
(Bennett 188 and Scharnhorst 28 omit full title)
118. Robert Lloyd's Elopement, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Nov. 14, 1858 (Vol. 9 No. 46)  
(Add to Pachon 176)
119. Sailor's Farewell, The, by Horatio Alger, Jr. (Verse)  
Flag of Our Union, Jan. 1, 1853 (Vol. 8 No. 1)
120. Sally Sparks, Spinster, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Aug. 25, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 34)
121. Saracen Dwarf, The. A Chronicle of the Middle Ages, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Weekly Novelette, Jan. 25, 1862 (Vol. 10 No. 20)  
(Add to Bennett 194)
122. Scarecrow, The; or, How a Match Was Broken Up, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Sept. 10, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 37)
123. Seekin' His Fortin'; or, Jonathan Bean, Jr.'s Experience, by Caroline  
F. Preston  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, July 1, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 26)
124. Selina's Country Lot; or, A City Girl's Investment, by Caroline F.  
Preston  
Home Circle, Mar. 18, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 11)  
(Add to Pachon 186)
125. Silver Thimble, The. A Tale of Our Boarding House, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 27, 1861 (Vol. 2 No. 17)
126. Single or Double, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Sept. 17, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 38)  
(Add to Pachon 188)
127. Suited and Non-Suited; or, Louisa Burton's Stratagem, by Caroline F.  
Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Jan. 18, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 3)  
(Add to Pachon 192)
128. Susan Carter's Escape, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Aug. 15, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 33)
129. Taking Care of Baby. Josiah Sillingsby's Experience, by Caroline F.  
Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Oct. 17, 1868 (Vol. 9 No. 42)
130. Terrible Mistake, The; or, How Mrs. Snodgrass Swallowed Poison, by  
Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Mar. 6, 1864 (Vol. 1 No. 10)  
(Add to Pachon 193)
131. That Terrible Child; or, Why Mrs. Wilkins Didn't Marry, by Caroline  
F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 21, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 51)  
(Add to Pachon 195 and correction from Mr. to Mrs.)
132. Tin Savings Bank, The. A Tale for Hard Times, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Nov. 20, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 47)

(Pachon 199 date correction)

133. Tom Dashwood's Flirtation; or, Jennie's Revenge, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Dec. 8, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 49)
134. Tom Sanford's Escape, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Aug. 17, 1867 (Vol. 8 No. 33)  
(Add to Pachon 200 with title correction)
135. Uncle Frank's Valentine, by Charles F. Preston  
True Flag, Feb. 17, 1855 (Vol. 4 No. 17)
136. Walsingham's Duel, by Caroline F. Preston  
Home Circle, Mar. 20, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 12)
137. Wanted—a Boy, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Jan. 9, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 2)  
(Add to Bennett 231)
138. Who Rang the Bell? A College Remembrance, by Carl Cantab  
American Union, Dec. 10, 1853 (Vol. 11 No. 7)  
Advertised in Vol. 11 No. 6 to appear in next number
139. Willard Burgess' Ward, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Feb. 27, 1869 (Vol. 1 No. 9)
140. William Knight's Lesson, by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, July 2, 1870 (Vol. 2 No. 27)  
(Add to Pachon 209)
141. Woman's Stratagem, A., by Horatio Alger, Jr.  
Home Circle, Apr. 15, 1871 (Vol. 3 No. 15)  
(Bennett 235 omits exact date)
142. Woman's Strategy; or, How Mrs. Sawyer Managed Her Husband, by Caroline  
F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Mar. 26, 1870 (Vol. 11 No. 13)
143. Zeke Spaulding's Bridal Tour, by Caroline F. Preston  
Gleason's Literary Companion, Apr. 28, 1860 (Vol. 1 No. 17)  
Gleason's Pictorial Dollar Weekly, Aug. 5, 1865 (Vol. 1 No. 31)  
(Add to Pachon 212)

THE END

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# THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY: A VARIETY OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

Reprinted from *BOOTBLACK: THE HORATIO ALGER MAGAZINE*, July-August, 1989

By Robert Forrey

When Bales resigned the editorship of *Newsboy* in 1986, after twelve years at the helm, he sounded as if he had become disgusted with the petty politics in the society ("Dammit, I'm getting fed up with all these people with their own personal vendettas," he wrote a friend) and surfeited with Alger, who was no longer his idol. Bales was quoted in an interview at the society's Pennsylvania convention, in 1982, as saying of Alger's work, "The books are stilted, very corny, very outdated." Such opinions were viewed by Forrest Campbell as heretical, but many members had grown more sophisticated about matters of literary taste and more indifferent to the disapproval of their founder, who had become an almost despised figure since the [Brewster] scandal he had kept hidden from other Partic'lar Friends had come to light.

In *Newsboy*, which Westgard began editing in 1986, there was a shift away from idolatry to iconoclasm. In one issue, Westgard published in a revised form a poem he had written some years ago but had never been able to get into the magazine. Titled "The Apotheosis of Horatio Alger, Jr.," it deals with the Brewster debacle. Westgard's publication of this poem caused resentment among other members of the society, who felt he had be-



come obsessed with Alger's homosexuality. They said it was time *Newsboy* stopped rehashing the Brewster scandal. Others said Westgard, with his scholarly bent and penchant for reprinting long historical pieces on Manhattan in the age of Alger, was not the right person to edit *Newsboy* and should step aside. But it was the feeling that Westgard was a renegade, or a heretic, more than anything else, in my opinion, that fueled the opposition to him.

In late August, 1988, the officers of the society decided [by a margin of one vote] they wanted to reduce the size of the magazine and also get a new editor. The same day he had mailed out the September-October issue of *Newsboy*, Westgard was notified in a letter from the president of the H.A.S. that he was being fired. Almost immediately, Westgard began thinking about establishing another Alger magazine, to be called *Bootblack*. When I learned of it, I told him it sounded like he was setting up a rival magazine, if not a rival organization. At first he denied it, but then he admitted, whether seriously or not, "Well, I suppose this could be our first schism."

The Horatio Alger Society appears to have been deeply affected—perhaps fatally riven—by the Brewster charges. On the one side are the iconoclasts, like Westgard and Scharnhorst, and on the other the diehard loyalists, like Gardner, who carries on as a gray eminence and continues to offer evidence of Alger's power to convert the young.

Where the next generation of Alger enthusiasts is to come from is uncertain, which puts the future of a group like the Horatio Alger Society in question. "I personally have my doubts it will survive," Jack Bales says, "but maybe it will. It's lasted so long now." Asked whether he thought the society has any future, Scharnhorst replied, "Frankly, I don't. My impression of it was that it was composed of rather old men who collect books. As they lose interest and die off, I don't think they'll be replaced." The well-heeled Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, in Rockefeller Plaza, will probably flourish as long as there are successful Americans who are flattered to be chosen for one of its annual Horatio Alger awards and willing to make tax-deductable financial contributions to the association, even if they have never read a Horatio Alger novel. But the Horatio Alger Society has depended upon a less affluent, more zealous lower middle-class following of Alger readers and collectors, "down-home, country types," Bales calls them, a following which is drying up, if the declining membership of the society is any indication. Like those Yiddish newspapers whose future is precariously tied up with an aging and shrinking readership, *Newsboy's* days appear to be dwindling down. So do its number of pages.

The Horatio Alger Society is like a living but tenuous link to the past—to a mythical past, probably. Partic'lar Friends wanted to preserve what was precious in their own youth, and in the youth of the America they had sentimentally conceived of with the help of Alger's novels. For them, it was always morning in America. They were collectors of myths as well as of books. And then the Brewster revelations had messed up their Eden, leaving some of them embittered, and others, like prelapsarian, Midwestern Adams, entombed in their illusions of eternal innocence. Something Gilbert Westgard had said about Forrest Campbell came back to me; it was a line he had borrowed from S. N. Behrman. I thought of it as a clue to what being a Partic'lar Friend meant; it might also serve as an epitaph for the Horatio Alger Society, should one ever be needed. "Every day of his life," Westgard said, "Forrest Campbell took a bath in pure innocence."

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